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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 09/853,552 Filing Date TRANSMITTAL May 11, 2001 First Named Inventor **FORM** Gina S. Butuc Art Unit 1713 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Examiner Name Peter D. Mulcahy Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission 7 42133-00009USP1 ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group x | Amendment/Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address X Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Extension of Time Request **Terminal Disclaimer** Certificate of Mailing 37 CFR 1.8 Express Abandonment Request Request for Refund Postcard Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm JENKENS & GILCHRIST, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION Robert L. Abdon, 50,996 Individual name Signature Date January 27, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

oplicants: Butuc, Gina S.

Serial No.: 09/853,552

Filed: May 11, 2001

For: **GEL COMPOSITIONS** Group No.: 1713

Examiner: Peter D. Mulcahy

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 30, 2003

In response to the final Office Action mailed December 30, 2003, the Applicant respectfully responds as follows. The two-month deadline for a Response is February 29, 2004. Therefore, this Response is timely filed.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.